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March 17, 2003

Ayabe and Broderick Appointed Judges

Chief Justice Ronald T. Y. Moon today appointed Bert I. Ayabe and Michael F. Broderick as a District Court judge and District Family Court judge, respectively, of the First Judicial Circuit (O'ahu). Ayabe is appointed to the vacancy created when Judge Marcia Waldorf was elevated to the Circuit Court. Broderick will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Honorable John Bryant, Jr.

Ayabe is a sole practitioner who specializes in the areas of personal injury and commercial litigation, arbitrations and mediations. He received his law degree from Hastings College of Law in 1981. After practicing in Los Angeles for several years, Ayabe returned to Hawai'i in 1986 and joined Hisaka and Furusho, which later became Hisaka Furusho and Ayabe in 1988 when he became a partner in the firm. In 1994, Ayabe left the firm to start his own practice.

Broderick is currently the Administrative Director of the Courts for the Hawai'i State Judiciary. Previously, he worked as an attorney in private practice in commercial litigation and employment law, served as legal counsel to Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, as well as a policy and research analyst for the Hawai'i State Board of Education and director of the Judiciary's Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution. A 1983 graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles Law School, Broderick currently serves on the board of directors of the YMCA of Honolulu, the Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i, and is the president of the board of the Hawai'i Justice Foundation.

District Court and District Family Court judges are appointed by the chief justice from a list of not less than six nominees submitted by the Judicial Selection Commission.

Ayabe's and Broderick's appointments are subject to confirmation by the State Senate.

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